



COME WORK (*AND PLAY*) IN BIG SKY COUNTRY! AT THE MONTANA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND

DEPARTMENT: Education

POSITION TITLE: ASL Bilingual Specialist

STARTING SALARY: \$30,640 - \$51,333 (dependent on years of experience and degrees/certification)

BENEFITS: Full Insurance Package

JOB LOCATION: Montana School for the Deaf and the Blind, Great Falls, MT

STATUS: Permanent, Full-time

SUPPLEMENT REQUIRED: No

POSITION NUMBER: 51300382

BARGAINING UNIT: MEA/MFT

CLOSING DATE: first application review – April 24, 2015 then open until filled

TYPICAL DUTIES:

The purpose of this job is to support students and staff in the acquisition, development, and refinement of American Sign Language (ASL) knowledge and skills. This position supports school wide programming in ASL and Deaf Culture for students and staff. The person must be able to work with staff in learning and using bilingual education strategies to complement our Total Communication philosophy. This position will work in tandem with the Speech and Language Pathologist to build students' overall communication and language (English and ASL) skills.

- Use ASL resources to assess ASL levels of students and work with staff to plan next steps including IEP goals for continued ASL development and how ASL development supports acquisition of English
- Provide direct ASL instruction and support in development of age-appropriate ASL skills and knowledge (i.e. in the classroom group instruction and 1:1 tutoring support utilizing both a pull-out and push-in model) including designing and implementing lessons/activities that support student needs using best practice in bilingual strategies
- Develop, refine, coordinate, train, and assist teachers in implementation of ASL curriculum and teaching strategies
- Assist in developing our corpus of ASL and Deaf Studies resources and materials for staff to use for instruction
- Promote ASL proficiency and appreciation of Deaf Culture awareness school wide through co-ordination of ASL/Deaf Culture events such as Deaf Awareness Week, Gallaudet Day, and others as appropriate
- Stay current on research and best practices in ASL Linguistics and Deaf Studies
- Provide professional development related to ASL and Deaf Studies to staff
- Coordinate and assist with sign language classes offered to staff, students, and stakeholders around the state
- Off-Campus Consultation - If requested and resources are available: Conduct communication and language evaluations and provide recommendations to LEA and student's IEP team.
- Performs related and other duties as assigned.
- Detailed Job Description available upon request.

QUALIFICATIONS: College Degree (Bachelor's or higher) in Deaf Education, Deaf Studies, ASL Linguistics and/or Special Education preferred, Special Education endorsement is needed within 1-2 years. Ability to obtain Montana Teaching Licensure. Native or Near-Native ASL skills required.

ACCOMMODATIONS: The State of Montana and the Montana School for the Deaf and the Blind makes reasonable accommodations for any known disability that may interfere with an applicant's ability to compete in the recruitment and selection process. For the school to consider any such accommodations, the applicant must notify the school in writing of any needed accommodation by the application deadline.

IMMIGRATION REFORM AND CONTROL ACT: In accordance with the Immigration Reform and Control Act, the person selected must produce within three (3) days of hire, documentation that he/she is authorized to work in the United States. Examples of such documentation include a birth certificate or social security card along with a driver's license or other picture I.D., a United States passport or a green card.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS: MSDB is a non-smoking environment extending to the entire campus: there are no authorized smoking areas and smoke breaks are not given. All successful candidates must possess a Montana Drivers License; submit to a background check, which includes a criminal record review, and must not possess any felony or DUI convictions. It is the policy of the Board that any finalist for hire shall submit to a finger-print based national criminal history background check conducted by the FBI prior to recommendation for hire. Additionally, an "Applicant Release Form" must be completed and signed as part of the application.

This position will require interactions with staff who may have very different and very strong beliefs about the best ways to educate students who are deaf and hard of hearing. The person in this position must be open-minded and respectful regarding different educational philosophies. This position requires a large amount of time engaging in signing which has been known to lead to repetitive motion injuries such as carpal tunnel. Some travel may be required with some overnight stays.

The successful candidate will have Native or Near-Native ASL skills. This employee must meet the requirements of MSDB Policy 5124 Employee Sign Language Skills and will be evaluated through the Sign Language Proficiency Interview (SLPI). This position must meet the Target Skill level Standard of "Advanced" upon hire with a Target Skill of "Advanced Plus" preferred.

APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS: Selection procedures to be used in evaluating applicant's qualifications include an evaluation of the Montana State Application form, structured interview, and reference checks. Incomplete or unsigned application forms may not be considered.

Application materials required are:

1. Signed and completed State of Montana Employment Application (PD-25). Portions of the application may be photocopied if legible.
2. Letter of application, resume and transcript(s) showing degree(s) earned.
3. Contact information for three (3) professional references.
4. Copy of current teacher licensure/certification.
5. Applicants claiming the Handicapped Person's Employment Preference must provide verification of eligibility with the application materials by the closing date. The required documentation includes a completed Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) Certification of Disability form.
6. Signed and dated Applicant Release of Information form.

INQUIRIES AND REQUEST FOR APPLICATION: Any Montana Job Service.

Locally 1018 7th Street South, Great Falls, Montana, 406-791-5800

An Affirmative action/Equal Opportunity Employer

Deaf and Hard of Hearing Candidates Encouraged to Apply

The Montana School for the Deaf and the Blind is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer (EOE). MSDB will not discriminate in its educational programs, activities, or employment practices, based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, religion, ancestry, union membership or any other legally protected classification. Announcement of this policy is in accordance with state and federal laws, including Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Employees and participants who have an inquiry or complaint of harassment or discrimination, or who need information about accommodations for persons with disabilities, should contact the Affirmative Action Officer, Montana School for the Deaf and the Blind, 3911 Central Avenue, Great Falls, Montana 59405. Phone (406) 771-6000